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JUN 08 2004

OFFICIAL RESPONSE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Rogers et al.
Serial No.: 09/998,972
Filed: October 31, 2001
Title: Vertebral Endplate Chisel

Group Art Unit: 3732
Examiner: Lewis, Ralph A.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the USPTO at 703-872-9306 on June 8th, 2004.

Amy Schick (signature)
Amy Schick

June 8, 2004 (date)

Thomas M. DiMauro (name of Registered Representative)

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JUN 08 2004

Docket No. DEP0639

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:	Rogers et al.	Group Art Unit:	3732
Serial No.:	09/998,972	Examiner:	Lewis, Ralph A.
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on _____, 2003.

_____(signature)
Amy Schick

_____(date)

Thomas M. DiMauro (name of Registered Representative)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 24, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-captioned patent application and entry of the below amendments in view of the following amendment and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins at page 2 of this paper.

Amendment to the Abstract is reflected on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks begin at page 9 of this paper.